

# Freeform Search

Database:

US Pre-Grant Publication Full-Text Database  
US Patents Full-Text Database  
US OCR Full-Text Database  
EPO Abstracts Database  
JPO Abstracts Database  
Derwent World Patents Index  
IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletins

Term:

de-19610634-\$.did.

Display:  Documents in Display Format:  Starting with Number

Generate: ☐ Hit List ☒ Hit Count ☐ Side by Side ☐ Image

Search

Clear


Interrupt

## Search History

DATE: Thursday, April 22, 2004 [Printable Copy](#) [Create Case](#)

<u>Set Name</u> side by side	<u>Query</u>	<u>Hit Count</u>	<u>Set Name</u> result set
	DB=PGPB,USPT,EPAB,JPAB,DWPI,TDBD; PLUR=NO; OP=OR		
<u>L3</u>	jp-05260229-\$.did.	2	<u>L3</u>
<u>L2</u>	jp-10091294-\$.did.	2	<u>L2</u>
<u>L1</u>	jp-10164123-\$.did.	2	<u>L1</u>

END OF SEARCH HISTORY

	<a href="#">Home</a> <a href="#">Index</a> <a href="#">Resources</a> <a href="#">Contacts</a> <a href="#">Internet</a> <a href="#">Search</a>
<b>Scientific and Technical Information Center</b>	
<a href="#">Patent Intranet &gt; NPL Virtual Library &gt; Translation Services &gt; Staff</a> <a href="#">Site Feedback</a>	
<a href="#">NPL Home</a>   <a href="#">STIC Catalog</a>   <a href="#">Site Guide</a>   <a href="#">EIC</a>   <a href="#">Automation Training/ITRPs</a>   <a href="#">Contact Us</a>   <a href="#">STIC Staff</a>   <a href="#">FAQ</a>   <a href="#">Firewall Authentication</a>	

## Translations Branch Staff

\* Denotes managers, supervisors, and team leaders

NAME	LOCATION	TELEPHONE	FAX
<b>Translations Branch</b>		308-0881	308-0989
<u>John Graham *</u>	2C15 CP3/4	308-3293	
<u>John Koytcheff</u>	2C15 CP3/4	308-1185	
<u>Chisato Morohashi</u>	2C15 CP3/4	308-3279	
<u>Carol Releford</u>	2C15 CP3/4	305-3532	
<u>Akiko Smith</u>	2C15 CP3/4	308-3244	
<u>Steven Spar</u>	REM 1A58	571-272-2574	
<u>Martha Witebsky</u>	REM 1A62	571-272-2575	

### Biographies

**John Graham** is the Chief of the Translations Branch. He has been with the USPTO since 1988, serving first as a French, Spanish and Italian Translator from 1988-93 and then as a supervisory translator and Branch Chief from 1993 until present. Prior to coming to the PTO, John was a fulltime French Translator/Interpreter at the National Imaging and Mapping Agency (NIMA) for two and a half years. He holds a B.A. in French and a B.A. in International Studies from Miami University (Ohio) with minors in Spanish and Political Science, and a M.A. in French Language and Literature from the University of Virginia where he also completed course requirements for the Ph.D. John has lived and traveled in France. Areas of particular emphasis and experience in translation include Intellectual Property Law, treaties and agreements related to patents, trademarks and copyrights, international development, and geography, geology, cartography and hydrography, among others.

**John Koytcheff** has been with the USPTO as a German Translator since 1992, also translating Russian, Dutch, Norwegian, Danish, Swedish, Bulgarian, Polish and Croatian. Prior to 1992, John served as a translator/interpreter at the USIA for seven years, and as a supervisory engineer (water purification, water quality and water pollution control), a foreign service officer, and delegate to the UNEP (U.N. Environmental Program) among other things. John holds a M.Sc. in Water & Wastewater Treatment Engineering, completed postgraduate studies in Environmental Engineering as a WHO Fellow, and is a graduate of the U.S. Naval War College. Areas of particular expertise in translation include: civil, mechanical, electrical and chemical engineering, materials testing, oceanography, military applications and defense cooperation.

**Chisato Morohashi** has been with the USPTO as a Japanese Translator since 1997. She was born in Japan where she attended a junior college for women and received an A.A. degree as a nutritionist and a certificate to teach at the junior high school level. In addition, she holds a B.A. and M.A. in Anthropology from the George Washington University. Chisato previously held two internships at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History. Chisato has ten years of experience as a translator, including four years as a language specialist at the Language Center of MCI WorldCom, Inc. She is currently taking Information Management courses at the PTO University.

**Akiko Smith** has been with the USPTO as a Japanese Translator since 1989. Prior to this, Akiko worked as a Language Officer at the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) for four years, and as a Corporate Interpreter and Translator at Pioneer Electronic Corporation in Ohio for one year. Before

coming to the United States, Akiko attended the Tsuda College of Business for two years (a training school for Japanese-English interpreters and bilingual secretaries), after which she was employed for five years as a bilingual secretary at NTT in Japan. She holds an Associate Degree from Ohio University with a concentration in Business, a B.A. in English Literature from Ohio University, and an M.A. in Japanese Literature from the Ohio State University.

**Steve Spar** has been with the USPTO as a Japanese Translator since 1995, also translating Russian, French and Spanish. Immediately prior to this, he worked as a translator for a law firm in Washington, DC for three years. Steve holds a B.A. in Russian and Linguistics from Georgetown University and has studied many other languages independently, including French, Spanish and Chinese. After graduating from Georgetown, Steve lived in Japan for five years, learning Japanese and later working as a staff translator at a Japanese electronics company.

**Martha Witebsky** has been with the USPTO as a German and French Translator since 1994. Prior to this, she worked for six years as a German and French Translator at an international patent law firm in Washington, DC. Martha was born in Cologne, Germany and holds a B.A. in French from the University of Maryland and a Certificate of Proficiency in Translation in German and French from Georgetown University.

Submit comments and suggestions to [John Graham](#)

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[Intranet Home](#) | [Index](#) | [Resources](#) | [Contacts](#) | [Internet](#) | [Search](#) | [Firewall](#) | [Web Services](#)

Last Modified: Sunday, January 11, 2004 13:32:37